

REMARKS

Claims 15-21 are pending in the application, and claims 15-21 have been rejected. In addition, applicants are requested to update the status of the prior applications as described in the Office Action. Also, an amendment to the Figure was also requested.

Specification:

Status of Prior Applications. The first lines of the Specification have been amended to indicate that the pending application is a divisional of an earlier application that has now issued as U.S. Patent Number 6,348,192. In addition, the application filing number of the parent application has been corrected to show the correct application number.

Brief Description of the Figure. The paragraph entitled "Brief Description of the Figure" (Page 3) has been amended to indicate that the Figure is "Figure 1" instead of "the Figure". There is only one figure in this application, and this amendment is limited to including the number "1". As such, this amendment adds no new subject matter to the application. Applicants have also submitted with this response a REPLACEMENT SHEET for the Figure. The REPLACEMENT SHEET contains the identifying statement "FIGURE 1" below the figure diagram. This amendment is consistent with the Examiner's recommendation.

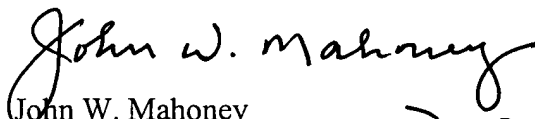
Claim Rejections - under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

Claims 15, 20, and 21 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 16-18 were rejected by the examiner for reasons of dependency (depending from a rejected claim). With the amendment to Claim 15, applicants believe that the basis of rejection for Claims 16-18 was also removed.

In view of the amendments and remarks above, the application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance. Therefore, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to pass the application to issue. If, in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Dec. 20, 2004